

DETAILED ACTION

1. According to a preliminary amendment filed on April 12, 2006, the applicants have canceled claims 11-16 and furthermore, have amended claim 1.
2. Claims 1-10 and 17-23 are now pending in the application.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. The following amendment is pursuant to a telephone conversation with the applicant's attorney, Mr. Kenneth F. Mitchell on Feb. 5, 2009. The following changes have been made in claims:

Cancel claims 8-10 and 17-23 without prejudice.

In claim 2, line 3, after and, delete --- 3 or 4 --- and insert --- 1 or 2 ---.

In claim 4, line 2, after formula, delete --- IV --- and insert --- III --- and furthermore, under the formula, delete --- IV --- and insert --- III. -----.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 1-7 are allowed since the instant compounds of formula I and pharmaceutical compositions comprising these compounds are neither disclosed nor obvious over the prior art. In the prior art, Chang (WO 03/087102, cited on applicants form 1449) discloses Furyl compounds of formula I (see page 1, lines 19-29) which are closely related to the instant compounds. However, the compounds of Chang differ in structure from the instant compounds in having different variable Ar (benzofuryl group instead of furopyridine group) and furthermore, there is no teaching, suggestion or motivation in the prior art to modify the compounds of Chang to prepare the instant compounds.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Charanjit S. Aulakh whose telephone number is (571)272-0678. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Janet Andres can be reached on (571)272-0867. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Charanjit S. Aulakh/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1625

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